

Library



URBAN DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON

Deven

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH

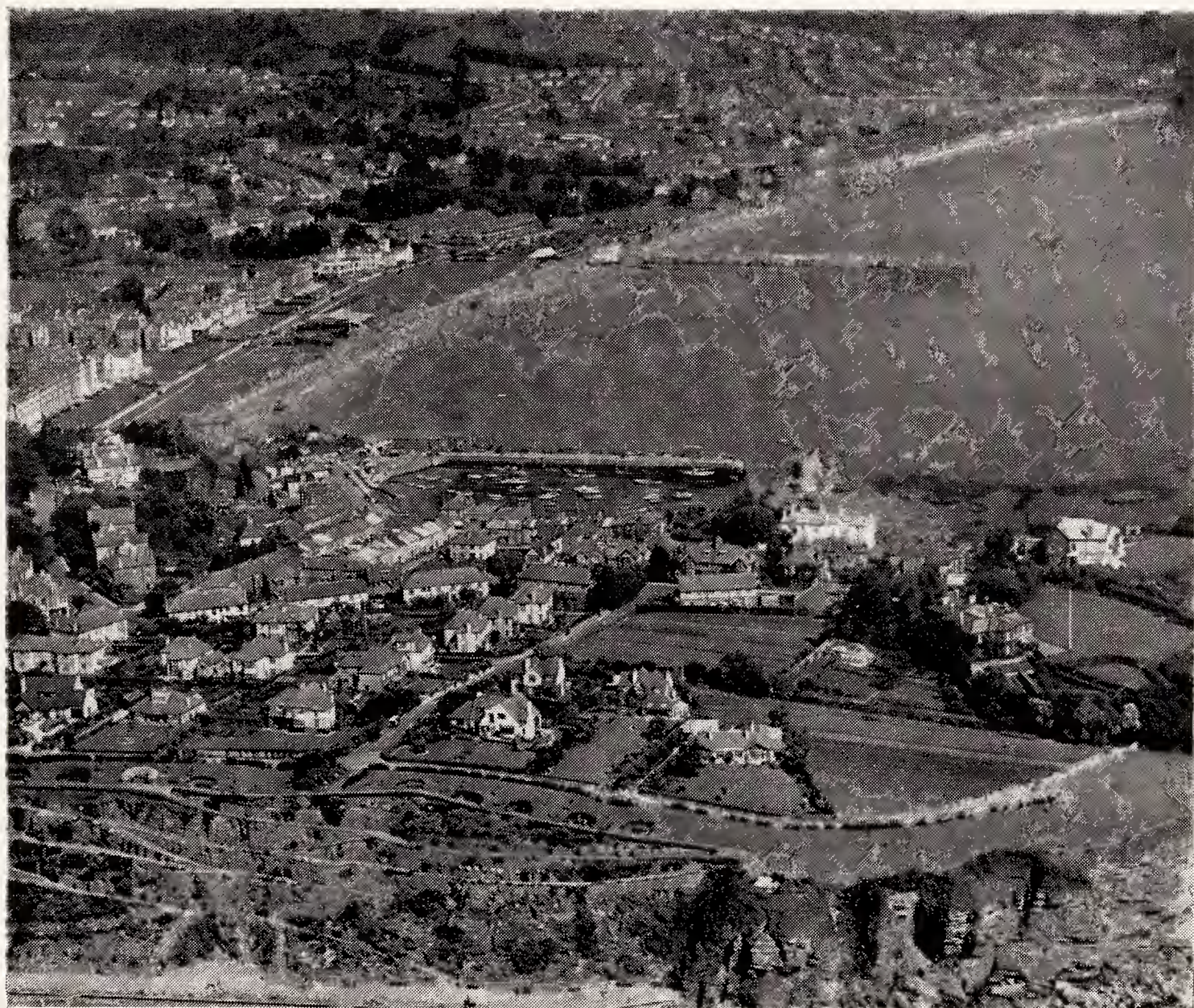
INSPECTOR

for 1956



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	1
STAFF	3
SECTION " A "—Statistics of the Area	4
SECTION " B "—General Provisions of Health Services	10
SECTION " C "—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area	14
SECTION " D "—Housing	27
SECTION " E "—Inspection and Supervision of Food	28
SECTION " F "—Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases	36
SECTION " G "—Report of the Inspector of Petroleum and Explosives	40
SECTION " H "—Report of the Housing Officer	41
REPORT OF THE RIPARIAN HEALTH DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON	44



Copyright by Aero Pictorial Ltd.

AERIAL VIEW OF PAIGNTON



OLDWAY MANSION—PAIGNTON CIVIC CENTRE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
OLDWAY, PAIGNTON

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1956, presented in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

Once again the health of the town continues to be satisfactory, there being little infectious disease. The only noteworthy item was a small outbreak of dysentery in a closed community which was quickly brought to an end and which is fully described in the text of this report. For the sixth successive year there were no cases either of diphtheria or cerebro-spinal fever. Immunisation against poliomyelitis was commenced during the year, 67 Paignton children being selected to receive the vaccine.

The vital statistics showed little variation from their normal course. The Crude Death Rate was 18.39 per 1,000 population, 11.58 corrected compared with 17.79 and 10.49 in 1955. The Birth Rate is still lower than that for the country as a whole being 9.7 per 1,000 population, 12.06 corrected, whilst the national figure was 15.7. It is said that the best single test of the health of a community is the Infant Mortality Rate and in this respect the figure for 1956 is extremely satisfactory. There were only 4 infant deaths, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 15.93 per 1,000 live births, the lowest figure ever recorded in Paignton, and in marked contrast to the Rate measured in 1955 which was 48.8 per 1,000 live births. This great improvement is, however, more likely to be attributable to the normal fluctuations which occur when dealing with relatively small numbers, rather than to any other cause.

One of the subjects with which the Department was particularly concerned during the year was the introduction of the new Food Hygiene Regulations. These regulations were very welcome to a holiday resort like Paignton where the food premises are both numerous and varied, and where the supervision of such premises forms an especially important part of the work. Ensuring that these regulations were known to all concerned in the food and catering trades, inspecting premises in the light of the new regulations, explaining, advising, and addressing meetings on the subject were all added tasks which the staff of the department gladly undertook in

order that the standard of hygiene of food premises and their equipment should be of the highest. But this alone is not enough. The co-operation of those who work in these establishments and actually handle the food is also required as similar standards of hygiene and conduct for the human element is also necessary in order to remove the slightest risk of illness due to infected or contaminated food. It is regrettable that with the many demands for workers in the summer months, hoteliers and others in the catering trades are often driven to employing staff whose unsuitability for such employment is most obvious and who can constitute a serious risk to the public by their unhygienic habits. The new regulations make some attempt to deal with this, but human behaviour cannot be controlled or altered by regulations. This can only come with re-education which is the constant care of the department.

Progress has been made during 1956 in another sphere directly affecting the health of the town. I refer to the decision to build new service reservoirs in order to assist in the water supply of the town. A commencement was made to the construction of two of these before the end of the year. This increased storage is essential for maintaining the water supply at peak periods, as the existing capacity was totally inadequate due to the widespread and rapid development of the town, and its increased popularity as a summer holiday resort. It is hoped that the increased capacity will be available by mid-summer, 1957, when any public health risks inherent in the practice of shutting down the water supply in various parts of the town in order to assure equable distribution, can thenceforth be avoided.

1956 saw the metamorphosis of the Sanitary Inspector into Public Health Inspector, as a further step in his evolution from Inspector of Nuisances, and while many may regret the disappearance of this traditional title, the change will be worth while if by the very alteration the general public is made more aware of the great debt which they owe to those who follow this calling and who have done so much to safeguard their health and well-being. I for my part, wish to express my gratitude to Mr. Bone, the Chief Public Health Inspector and all the other members of the staff of the department for their very able and conscientious assistance which I have received at all times.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I should like to record my appreciation of the encouragement and support which I have received throughout the year both from yourself and from the members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

D. K. MacTAGGART.

STAFF

MEDICAL

D. K. MacTAGGART, M.A., M.B., Ch.B. (Aberd.), D.P.H.
(Lond.).

Medical Officer of Health.

(Also Medical Officer of Health, Brixham U.D.C. and
Borough of Dartmouth, and Assistant County Medical
Officer, Devon County Council.)

SANITARY

S. H. BONE, Cert. S.I.B., Meat Cert., M.S.I.A.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Meat Inspector.

Housing Officer, Explosives and Petroleum Officer.

W. D. MUGFORD, Cert. S.I.B., Meat Cert., M.S.I.A.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

Meat Inspector.

F. C. BIDGOOD, Cert. S.I.B., Meat Cert., M.S.I.A.

Meat Inspector.

Additional Public Health Inspector.

CLERICAL

H. B. BOND (to 14/1/56).

MRS. S. BEAUMONT (from 5/3/56).

MISS N. HART

MRS. R. M. VILLIS

OTHER

C. J. TURPIN, Disinfecter.

A. L. DOHERTY, Rodent Operator.

I. J. WILLIAMS, Abattoir Attendant.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1—

Area (Acres)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,188
Area of pleasure grounds—349.024 acres							
Area of foreshore		151.300 acres					
Coastline 4.58 miles, of which 3.66 miles of foreshore are owned by the Council.							
Population—(Census, 1931)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,414
Population—(Census, 1951)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25,369
Registrar-General's estimated resident population, 1956							
(mid-year)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25,780
Number of inhabited houses, 1956				.....	.....	.....	8,943
Rateable value, 31st December, 1956				.....	.....	.....	£499,448
Estimated sum represented by Penny Rate, 1956/57							 £1,950

Social Conditions

The chief industries of Paignton are those connected with the catering trade and the building trade. This reflects the character of the town in its increasing popularity as a holiday resort and a residential district.

Some indication of the size of the catering industry in Paignton can be obtained from the fact that there are approximately 600 boarding houses, 18 unlicensed and 12 licensed hotels in the town. There are also 325 food shops which includes 49 restaurants and cafes.

The population live in a good environment, and, as much of the town's growth has taken place in the last few decades, the general state of housing is very good. There is little unemployment in the town, and when there is, it is of a markedly seasonal nature. This is very evident from the following figures :

	Total	Males	Females
Estimated working Population	7,000	—	—
Number unemployed, January, 1956	350	200	150
Number unemployed, July, 1956	68	57	11

One of the main social features of the district is the large number of old people in the local population brought about largely by the steady influx of people who come to live in Paignton on their retirement. It is estimated that over 20% of the local population are over 65 years of age. Many old persons live on their own, and in the course of time they become infirm and unable to look after themselves. As there is insufficient accommodation either in Homes and Hospitals for those who should be so accommodated, for their own well being, this brings about one of the most acute social problems of the area. It is very gratifying to know that the Paignton Council of Social Service, through the vision, courage and hard work of the members is undertaking the conversion of Primley House to an Old Folk's Home. This will be of the greatest benefit in assisting these old people although there will still be need for the provision of other accommodation of this type.

Another social characteristic of the town is brought about by its popularity as a holiday resort and a residential district. With the increase in the number of persons who take caravan and camping holidays, the numbers visiting Paignton, and the number of sites catering for them has also increased. In the peak holiday period in 1956 there were in Paignton 1,264 caravans, 618 huts, and 739 tents, with an estimated total of 8,193 people living in them. This feature is not confined to the summer months and the summer visitors. Due to the rapid growth of the town there are many people who came to live here without the means or the desire to buy a house for their own occupation, and as very few are able to find a house to rent they become permanent caravan dwellers. This gives rise not only to the usual problem of sanitary arrangements which are even more marked with the arrival of the holiday caravanners, but also to deeper effects which may not be immediately obvious—such as the effect on standards of child care, and on the emotional life of the family as a whole.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1956

					Male	Female	Total
Live Births	.....	.....	.....	.....	134	117	251
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	125	108	233
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	9	18
Stillbirths	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	.....						9.7
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	.....						0.155
Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	.....						15.68
Area Comparability Factor—Births	.....						1.24
Corrected Birth Rate	.....	.....	.....	.....			12.06
					Male	Female	Total
Deaths	.....	.....	.....	.....	236	238	474
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	.....						18.39
Area Comparability Factor—Deaths	.....						0.63
Corrected Death Rate	.....	.....	.....	.....			11.58
					Male	Female	Total
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	.....				3	1	4
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1	4
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age :							
All infants per 1,000 live births	.....	.....					15.93
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	.....						17.16
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births							Nil
					Male	Female	Total
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	.....				3	0	3
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	0	3
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
Death rate of infants under 4 weeks of age :							
All infants per 1,000 live births	.....	.....					11.93
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	.....						12.96
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births							Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	.....	.....					80
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea (all ages)							0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	.....	.....					0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	.....	.....					0

Births

The Birth Rate in Paignton was 9.7 per 1,000 population in 1956, compared with a Birth Rate of 15.7 for England and Wales as a whole. The much lower rate for Paignton reflects the large numbers of older people in the population. When allowance is made for this, by a special statistical method which makes comparison more accurate, it gives Paignton a Birth Rate of 12.06 which still compares unfavourably with the national figure.

80% of the births in Paignton in 1956 took place in hospital, and only 20% were domiciliary confinements.

There were 4 Still-Births during the year, compared with only 1 in 1955 and 11 in 1954. This gives a Still-Birth Rate of 15.68 per 1,000 live and still-births, the national Still-Birth Rate being 23.0 per 1,000 total births in 1956.

Deaths

The number of deaths registered during the year was 474 which gives a crude death rate of 18.39 per 1,000 population. This compares with 17.75 in 1955, and a Death Rate of 11.7 for England and Wales. This difference is again caused by the high proportion of old people in Paignton as compared with the country as a whole. Allowing for the age and sex distribution of the population by the technique of standardisation already mentioned, the Standardised Death Rate for Paignton is 11.58 which compares favourably with the Death Rate of England and Wales.

The chief causes of death in Paignton are those which are to be expected in a predominantly old population : Heart disease, 204 ; Vascular lesions of the nervous system, 89 ; Malignant disease, 80. These three causes together accounted for 79% of all the deaths in Paignton for the second year running.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 15.93 for Paignton and 23.8 for the country as a whole. These are the lowest figures ever recorded, both locally and nationally the former figure comparing very well with the latter, and with the rate for Paignton in 1955 which was 48.8.

Tables

Table 1 summarises the causes of death during 1956, and Table 2 shows the vital statistics for Paignton for the last 19 years for comparison purposes.

TABLE 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1956

					Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	.....	.....	.....	3	1	4
2	Tuberculosis, other	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2
3	Syphilitic disease	.....	.....	.....	3	3	6
4	Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
7	Acute poliomyelitis	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
8	Measles	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	.....	.....	.....	6	8	14
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	.....	.....	.....	8	3	11
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	.....	.....	.....	0	6	6
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	.....	.....	.....	0	2	2
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	.....	.....	.....	27	19	46
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	.....	.....	.....	0	1	1
16	Diabetes	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	.....	.....	.....	36	53	89
18	Coronary disease, angina	.....	.....	.....	48	28	76
19	Hypertension with heart disease	.....	.....	.....	1	6	7
20	Other heart disease	.....	.....	.....	49	58	107
21	Other circulatory disease	.....	.....	.....	9	5	14
22	Influenza	.....	.....	.....	1	4	5
23	Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	8	5	13
24	Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	10	4	14
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	.....	.....	.....	0	1	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	.....	.....	.....	3	2	5
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	.....	.....	.....	5	0	5
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	.....	.....	.....	9	17	26
33	Motor vehicle accidents	.....	.....	.....	2	0	2
34	All other accidents	.....	.....	.....	2	3	5
35	Suicide	.....	.....	.....	4	3	7
36	Homicide and operations of war	.....	.....	.....	0	0	0
All causes					236	238	474

TABLE 2 VITAL STATISTICS—URBAN DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON 1939—1956

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Estimated Population	23130	26960	30710	26210	23750	24420	24310	25300	25610	25450	25390	25570	25369	25060	25240	25390	25350	25780
Live Births	240	254	305	365	289	354	340	366	400	307	271	304	240	269	249	252	246	251
Still Births	4	7	4	11	7	8	4	15	7	7	6	7	5	6	6	11	1	4
Birth Rate per 1000 Population *	10.39	8.75	9.93	13.92	12.16	14.49	13.99	14.46	15.62	12.06	10.67	11.49	9.48	10.73	9.87	9.89	9.7	9.7
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total births *	12.34	26.82	12.96	29.25	23.40	22.09	11.62	38.81	17.19	22.29	21.66	22.51	20.83	21.81	42.31	42.00	0.03	15.68
Standardised Birth Rate *	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.52	9.49	11.69	10.76	12.26	12.03
Deaths	350	400	439	439	413	428	411	412	411	396	439	431	461	404	420	398	451	474
Death Rate per 1000 Population †	15.14	14.83	14.29	16.74	17.38	17.52	16.49	16.28	16.05	15.56	17.29	16.86	18.22	16.12	16.64	15.68	17.75	18.39
Standardised Death Rate †	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.07	10.78	11.66	10.31	10.65	9.25	10.49
Infant Deaths	5	8	14	14	12	13	14	16	12	9	6	10	4	7	6	5	12	4
Infant Mortality Rate	20.83	31.49	38.14	38.35	41.52	36.72	41.18	43.71	30.00	29.32	22.14	32.89	16.60	26.02	24.10	19.92	48.8	15.93

* No Comparability Factor available for births for the years 1939—1949.

† No Comparability Factor available for deaths for the years 1939—1948.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Staff

Full particulars of the staff, together with their qualifications, are given on page 3.

Committees

The Committees which are concerned with matters of Public Health are :

Public Health Committee. Chairman—G. W. Cornelius, Esq., J.P.
Housing Committee. Chairman—Mrs. E. A. Flemons.

Laboratory Facilities

A Laboratory is maintained in the Department where simple bacteriological examinations and chemical tests are carried out by your Medical Officer and Public Health Inspectors.

Bacteriological examination of pathological specimens, and samples of milk, water, ice cream and shellfish are otherwise carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at 7 Dix's Field, Exeter (Telephone Exeter 54959).

In addition, specimens for clinical pathology and bacteriology are also dealt with at the Pathology Laboratory, Torbay Hospital, Torquay.

The chemical analysis of water and other samples is undertaken by Messrs. Tickle and Reynolds, Public Analyst, 83 and 84 Queen Street, Exeter.

Home Help Service

This is a service provided by the County Council through the local W.V.S. It aims to provide domestic help where required by reason of sickness, pregnancy, etc.

The Home Help Organiser for the district is Mrs. R. Marles, 22 Winsu Avenue, Paignton.

Hospitals

South-Western Regional Hospital Board. Torquay and District Hospital Management Committee.

The Paignton and District Hospital situated at Church Street, Paignton, is a general hospital with an establishment of fifty beds.

There is a Convalescent Hospital situated at Kings Ash, Paignton.

The district is mainly served for general cases by the Torbay Hospital, Torquay ; whilst cases of infectious disease are received at the Isolation Hospital, Torquay.

Ambulance Services

This service is under the general direction of the County Medical Officer (Ambulance Section), "Ivybank," 45 St. David's Hill, Exeter (Tel. No. Exeter 74051). Paignton possesses one Ambulance Station out of the 33 Stations and Posts in the Administrative County. The Station is situated at Mill Yard, Littlegate Road, Paignton (Tel. No. Paignton 57602 by day, and Paignton 59922 by night). There are four full-time drivers and three Ambulances. The local administration of the Station and the executive work are carried out by the Paignton St. John Ambulance and Nursing Brigade under an agency agreement with the Devon County Council.

For infectious disease (other than smallpox) ambulance arrangements are made by the Torquay Isolation Hospital (Torquay 63276) for cases entering the Hospital from the Paignton area.

Hospital Car Service

The Hospital Car Service (organised by the S.J.A.B., B.R.C.S. and W.V.S.) operates under an agency agreement with the Devon County Council for sitting cases.

Nursing in the Home

This service is provided by the Health Authority (Devon County Council), the following Nurses carrying out their duties in the Paignton District :

Q.D.N.—Nurse Wolland, 59 Marldon Road, Paignton.
Tel. No. 57632.

D.N.M.—Nurse Clarke, 20b Woodland Park. Paignton.
Tel. No. 59586.

D.N.M.—Nurse Hill, 6 Oyster Bend, Three Beaches, Paignton.
Tel. No. 57134.

D.N.M.—Nurse Hicks, 26 Kings Road, Paignton.
Tel. No. 83141.

F.T.M.—Nurse Harwood, "Sunridge," Dunstone Park,
Paignton. Tel. No. 58158.

D.N.M.—Nurse Bompas, The Flat, Newbold House, Totnes
Road, Paignton. Tel. No. 56750.

Q.D.N.—Queen's District Nurse.

D.N.M.—District Nurse Midwife.

F.T.M.—Full-time Midwife.

Nurseries

There are two Nurseries in the District. One, a Resident Nursery, is run privately by Miss Hooper, and situated at 5 Roundham Road, Paignton (Tel. No. 57672). The second Nursery is a Day Nursery, situated at the rear of Lower Polsham Road, and is administered by the Paignton Council of Social Service. The Superintendent is Mrs. J. Bewley.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

(i) School Health—Central Clinic, Midvale Road, Paignton.

Special medical inspections and treatment of minor ailments are carried out at the Clinic on Thursday mornings during school term. **Ophthalmic**—Oculist : Dr. Hutton. The clinic is held twice monthly on Monday mornings.

Dental—Dentist : Mr. Fiddick. The clinic is held on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and alternate Fridays, morning and afternoon.

Speech Therapy—Speech Therapist : Miss Macmillan. The clinic is held on Tuesday afternoons and all day on Wednesdays.

(ii) Ante-Natal

An Ante-Natal Clinic is held in the Central Clinic, Midvale Road, Paignton, weekly on Friday afternoons, and Relaxation Clinic on Monday afternoons.

(iii) Orthopædic Clinic

Orthopædic Surgeon : Mr. G. Blundell-Jones. This Clinic is held at Castle Chambers, Union Street, Torquay, every Wednesday, morning and afternoon.

Health Visitors

There are two Health Visitors for the district—Miss M. M. Thain and Miss C. C. Forbes, who are on the staff of the County Council Medical Department.

They have a very wide scope in their work, as they advise on health matters affecting the family as a whole, and not solely in connection with babies, infants and school children.

The Health Visitors are assisted in their work, both at the infant welfare centre and in the schools, by Mrs. Grant, a nursing assistant.

Mental Health

The responsibility for the investigation, supervision of cases, and other action under the Lunacy, Mental Treatment and Mental Deficiency Acts and Regulations, rests upon two duly authorised officers.

They are Miss O. F. Evans and Mr. W. J. Gliddon. Their headquarters are at the Central Clinic, Midvale Road, Paignton.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948/51

The local authority carrying the responsibility for the implementation of the portions of this Act relating to accommodation for the disabled and aged, temporary accommodation for persons who, by virtue of unforeseen circumstances are without lodgings, and to welfare services for persons handicapped by blindness, deafness, dumbness, crippling physical defects and other disabilities, is the County Council.

Section 47 of the Act of 1948, as amended, relates to the removal to suitable premises of persons who are suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions ; and are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care or attention. This Section, and Section 50, is administered by the District Councils. One case was investigated, but no action was necessary.

Section 50 of the Act places on the District Council the duty of arranging for the burial or cremation of the body of any person who has died or been found dead within the district, when it appears to the Authority that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been, or are being made, otherwise than by the Authority. There were no such burials during the year.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

The following details of sources of supply and figures have kindly been furnished by the Water Engineer, Mr. J. C. Peters, A.I.W.E., A.I.Struct.E.

(i) **Whether the water supply of the area and its several parts has been satisfactory**

(a) **in quality.**

(b) **in quantity.**

(a) Throughout the year the quality of the water on the whole has been maintained at a highly satisfactory standard.

(b) The quantity of water available at Holne has been ample for all purposes. The lowest level recorded of the impounding reservoir at Holne, which has a capacity of 190 million gallons, was 43ft. 4ins. (i.e. 10ft. 8ins. below the Top Water Level).

In this year from June to September inclusive, advantage was taken of the 1952 Water Order which permitted additional water to be abstracted from the River Swincombe. This accounted for the high level maintained in the Holne Reservoir.

To augment the supply from Holne Reservoir 11,917,000 gallons were pumped from Great Parks to Beacon Hill Reservoir during the summer season.

(ii) **Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water and, where treatment is installed, of the water going into supply, if so, how many and the results obtained : the results of any chemical analyses.**

Bacteriological and chemical examinations have been made both of the raw and treated water. The whole of the supply is passed through pressure filters and the naturally acid water is treated with hydrate of lime and subsequently sterilised by the application of gaseous chlorine.

Chlorinating and neutralization plants are operating at Holne, acting independently on each trunk main.

Bacteriological and Chemical Analyses of the raw water are as follows :

Bacteriological

27 samples were taken, of which 82% fell into Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's Classification for piped supplies, which is highly satisfactory.

Chemical Analysis of the Raw Water

Messrs. Tickle and Reynolds, 83 and 84 Queen Street, Exeter.

Sample of raw water from Moorland Catchment Area
Swincombe Intake Works.

Characters.

Colour Yellow-Green Tint. Turbidity—Clear. Taste—
Natural. Odour—None. Suspended matters—Debris of vegetation.
Diatoms and infusorians.

Analysis (parts per million)

Chlorine present at Chlorides	.....	.....	.....	10.0
Nitrogen present as Nitrites	.....	.....	.....	0
Nitrogen present as Nitrates	.....	.....	.....	0
Phosphates	.....	.....	.....	0
Free Carbon Dioxide	.....	.....	.....	14.0
Total Hardness equivalent to Calcium Carbonate (from Ca & Mg)	.....	.....	.....	19.0
Permanent Hardness (not altered by boiling) (by difference)	.....	.....	.....	17.0
Temporary Hardness (annulled by boiling) (from alkalinity)	.....	.....	.....	2.0
Saline Ammonia	.....	.....	.....	0
Albuminoid Ammonia	.....	.....	.....	0.052
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C.	.....	.....	.....	1.0
Lead	.....	.....	.....	0
Copper	.....	.....	.....	0
Zinc	.....	.....	.....	0
Iron in solution	.....	.....	.....	0
Iron in sedimentary form	.....	.....	.....	0
Manganese	.....	.....	.....	0
Total Solid Constituents	.....	.....	.....	65.0
Organic Matter observed in igniting the Solid Constituents	.....	.....	.....	Trace
Fluoride as F	.....	.....	.....	0.096
Hydrogen Ion Concentration equivalent to pH	.....	.....	.....	5.6

The results of the examination of the sample show that it has the character and quality of water drained from a clean moorland catchment area. The water is free from deleterious constituents and possesses no abnormal qualities.

Bacteriological Examination of the Raw Water

Nature of Sample—Moorland Catchment Area.

River—Swincombe Intake Works.

Report.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, McConkey

2 days, 37° C. 250 per 100 ml.

Probable number of faecal coli 0 per 100 ml.

Nature of Sample—Moorland Catchment Area.
Holne Water Works.

Report.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, McConkey
2 days, 37° C. 250 per 100 ml.
Probable number of faecal coli 0 per 100 ml.

Nature of Sample—Surface Springs.
Great Parks Reservoir.

Report.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, McConkey
2 days, 37° C. 110 per 100 ml.
Probable number of faecal coli 0 per 100 ml.

Chemical Analysis of Treated Water

Messrs. Tickle and Reynolds, 83 and 84 Queen Street, Exeter.
Sample of water from Inlet to St. Mary's Reservoir. Water
chlorinated and treated with hydrate of lime.

Characters.

Colour—Yellow-green tint. Turbidity—Clear. Taste—Natural.
Odour—None. Suspended matter—None.

Analysis (parts per million)

Chlorine present at Chlorides	.....	11.0
Nitrogen present as Nitrites	.....	0
Nitrogen present as Nitrates	.....	0
Phosphates	.....	0
Total Hardness equivalent to Calcium Carbonate	.....	27.0
Temporary Hardness (annulled by boiling)	.....	7.0
Permanent Hardness (not altered by boiling)	.....	20.0
Saline Ammonia	.....	0
Albuminoid Ammonia	.....	0.052
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C.	.....	1.5
Lead	.....	0
Copper	.....	0
Zinc	.....	0
Iron in solution	.....	0
Iron in sedimentary form	.....	0
Manganese	.....	0
Total solid constituents	.....	60.0
Organic matter observed in igniting the solid constituents	.....	Trace
Hydrogen Ion concentration equivalent topH	.....	6.8
Free Chlorine	.....	0

The results of the examination of the sample indicate that the scheme of treatment is fully effective.

The water is devoid of plumbosolvent power.

Bacteriological Examination of Treated Water

Nature of Sample—Moorland Catchment Area.

Main Piped Supply—15in. Trunk main—tap—Inlet to St. Mary's Reservoir—Filtered—Chlorinated—hydrate of lime.

Report.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, McConkey

2 days, 37° C. 0 per 100 ml.

Probable number of faecal coli 0 per 100 ml.

Remarks.

This sample falls into Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's classification for piped supplies.

(iii) **Where the waters are liable to have plumbo-solvent action, the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken and the number and results of analyses.**

The pH value of the raw moorland water varies between 5.00 and 6.00 and throughout the year water is treated with hydrate of lime to neutralise the acidity. The lime solution generator enables the pH value of the raw water to be increased to the alkalinity side of neutral.

(iv) **Action taken in respect of any form of contamination.**

No form of contamination has occurred throughout the year.

Regular inspections of the catchment areas, works and mains, etc., were made.

(v) **Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains**

(a) **direct to the houses.**

(b) **by means of stand-pipes.**

(a) Approximately 99.7% of the population are supplied with water from the Council's mains and a similar percentage of dwelling-houses. During the year additional water services were installed to the extent of 308 for new properties. The present length of water mains is 126 miles 1269 yards. The foregoing having increased during the year by 1 mile 1067 yards. (Chiefly 4in. diameter mains for development in the area.)

(b) There are no dwelling-houses within the area which are supplied by means of stand-pipes.

(vi) **New Works**

In order to allow the Council to meet their commitments they have had under consideration the building of three service reservoirs, and towards the end of this year two were under construction. These are both of covered in design and massed concrete construction. The Fernicombe Reservoir will be of a 1,000,000 gallons capacity with provision for extension and is situated off the Kings Ash Road.

The Alston Reservoir will be used by Paignton to the extent of 1½ million gallons and by Brixham to the extent of 1 million gallons (total capacity 2½ million) and is situated off the Paignton—Kingswear Road at Churston.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

I am indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. F. Ralph Penwill, F.R.I.C.S., M.I.Mun.E., F.I.A.A., F.R.San.I., for the information on drainage, sewerage and public cleansing.

A complete new system at a cost of £440,000 was installed in 1930/35, and full details of the system were included in the Report for 1934. The outfall discharges into the English Channel off Berry Head, Brixham (outside Torbay).

Sewerage

1200 yards of 36in. pipe have been laid to drain Crabbs Park Valley, to this sewer have been connected :

The new factory for Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd., Crabbs Park Winery and two caravan camps.

3. RIVERS AND STREAMS

The gross pollution in the stream caused by the Winery mentioned above has now ceased, the trade effluent now being taken into the sewer.

4. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

No conservancy system conversion was carried out during the year.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING

There has been extension in both public cleansing and refuse collection and disposal.

The existing plant and equipment including electric street orderly trucks has been able to cope with the increase in public cleansing.

The Council has taken over the Ridgeway Claypit of approximately 4 acres for refuse disposal to take the place of the present tip which is nearing completion.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

(a) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

365 houses and flats (including Council houses) were completed during the year and considerable time was given to the supervision of the design and construction of drainage systems. The tests and inspections carried out are classified as follows :

New buildings :

Sewer connections inspected	.....	.....	125
Tests of drainage	.....	.....	815

Existing buildings :

Sewer connections inspected	.....	.....	1
Tests of drainage	.....	.....	134

Choked Drains

Informal action was taken in 53 instances to secure clearance of drainage obstructions.

The Council does not undertake to clear drainage stoppages, and owners are advised to make private arrangements with local building contractors. It is not always appreciated by house owners that their responsibility does not end at the interceptor but extends to the junction with the sewer.

(b) DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

290 rooms, involving 112 premises, were treated for the following reasons :

Notifiable Disease (excluding Tuberculosis)	.....	20
Tuberculosis	.....	—
Verminous Conditions	.....	29
Other Causes	.....	46
Other Infectious Diseases	.....	17
Mattresses	.....	21
Pillows	.....	58
Sheets	.....	4
Bolsters	.....	1
Blankets	.....	12
Other Articles	.....	28

Library books fumigated totalled 26.

The boiler of the steam disinfection plant at Kings Ash Hospital was found to be beyond repair and articles requiring steam disinfection are now sent to the plant at Torquay.

ERADICATION OF BED-BUGS

The methods employed for the eradication of bed-bugs are :

- (a) Using " Cimex " Gas Blocks for large infestations. This necessitates sealing the premises for one day.
- (b) Using " Cimex " Powder with Blower Spray.
- (c) Spraying with " Zaldecide " Solution.
- (d) Application of " D.D.T." Spray and Powder.

		Infested	Disinfested
(i) Council houses	.....	1	1
(ii) Other houses	.....	1	1

WASP NESTS

A number of requests for assistance in exterminating wasps were received this year resulting in 92 wasps nests being destroyed. 3 bees nests and 1 hornets nest were also destroyed.

Satisfactory results were obtained in the control of these pests by fumigation with hydrocyanic acid gas. The gas is produced by moistening a proprietary preparation evolving 20% by weight of HCN, and is used in quantities consistent with the size and location of the nest.

Nests located inside buildings are treated initially by spray insecticide to facilitate removal to a safe place where complete extermination by the HCN process is effected.

RODENT CONTROL.

In accordance with the instructions issued by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 10% of the sewers in the District are test baited annually. From evidence based on the results of this test two maintenance tests are carried out in the early spring and autumn.

The tests emphasise that very few rats are to be found in the sewers in the elevated parts of the town. Takes were recorded in the sewers in the low-lying parts and although it does not seem possible to eradicate the rats completely from this area, there is no evidence to show that their numbers are increasing.

Treatments to private houses are free of charge, but business premises are charged at the rate of 6/- per hour.

The following table shows the incidence of infestation and action taken under the provisions of The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, and is based upon the twelve monthly return submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Type of Property					
Non-Agricultural					
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All Other (including Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3) (4)	Agricultural (5)
1—Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	44	8792	1373	10209	39
2—Number of properties inspected as a result of : (a) Notification (b) Survey under the Act (c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	5 39 —	174 440 100	12 — 150	191 479 250	— 10 —
3—Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections (To be completed only if figures are readily available)	—	—	—	—	—
4—Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 2) which were found to be infested by : (a) Rats {Major Minor (b) Mice {Major Minor	1 20 — —	— 305 — 24	— 10 — 2	1 335 — 26	— — — —
5—Number of infested properties (in Sect. 4) treated by the L.A.	21	329	12	362	—
6—Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments (To be completed only if figures are readily available)	—	—	—	—	—
7—Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act : (a) Treatment (b) Structural Work (i.e. proofing)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
8—Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
9—Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
10—Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	135				

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (cont.)

Note 1—With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area.

Note 2— (i) Premises used by the L.A. for the purposes of trade should be entered in Col. (3).

(ii) Sewers should not be included.

(iii) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in Col. (3). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Cols. (2) and (3).

Note 3—For the purposes of completing Sections 2, 4 and 5, each property should be entered once only in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.

(c) FACTORIES ACT, 1937

135 inspections were made in respect of 175 premises listed in the Factories Register. The following tabular return for the year was made to the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

1. Inspections made by Public Health Inspectors

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	27	20	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	141	110	6	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	7	5	—	—
TOTAL ...		175	135	8	—

NOTE. (i) Refers to factories in which mechanical power is not used.

2. Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspectors (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—						
(a) insufficient	9	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	10	7	7	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	60	8	8	—	—	—

(d) SHOPS ACT, 1950

The Council is now responsible for the administration of the whole of the provisions of the Shops Act.

One Order made by the County Council has been adopted by this Council thus continuing a policy that has been in operation since 1912. This order, made under Section 40, suspends the weekly half holiday during the 4 months June to September.

There are 577 shop premises within the area, to which 360 visits were made for the purposes of the Act.

Informal action was taken in respect of 26 premises as follows :

Provide washing facilities and sanitary accommodation	.....	6
Repair and re-decorate sanitary accommodation	.....	2
Provide sufficient ventilation	.....	4
Hours of closing	.....	14

(e) CAMPING SITES

33 sites were occupied during the year by tents, caravans and buildings of short lived materials. 9 sites are licenced under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and 8 sites have been granted a licence under the Town Planning Act. 4 sites were used for less than 60 days and 7 sites increased the number of dwellings for a temporary period only. The remaining sites are occupied by structures to which the building bye-laws apply. Although these sites do not require to be licenced, in many cases conditions do approach the standard set for licenced sites.

Sanitary accommodation was increased at 4 sites and the work completed before the commencement of the season. At another 2 sites plans have been approved for the provision of additional sanitary accommodation and this work should be carried out next year.

A survey made during the last week in July gave the following figures :

Number of Campers	.....	8193
		———
Number of Caravans	.....	1264
Number of Huts	.....	618
Number of Tents	.....	739
		———
		2621

(f) SMOKE ABATEMENT

There has been no serious smoke nuisance in the area during the period under review, and minor complaints have been overcome following a verbal request.

(g) SWIMMING POOLS

There are 2 swimming pools in use in the Urban area ; both are privately owned and are located at holiday camps.

Filtration and Chlorination plants are installed at both pools.

14 samples were taken during the year, 12 of which proved satisfactory.

(h) SCHOOLS

The sanitary conditions and water supplies of schools within the area remain unchanged.

OLD METAL OR MARINE STORE DEALERS

5 persons are registered as Dealers in Old Metal under Section 86 of The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Licence renewals were granted to the original applicants in respect of 4 premises required to be licensed under the Act.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1951

4 premises are registered under the Act. No premises are licensed for the manufacture or storage of Rag Flock.

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952

Inspections have been made for the purpose of carrying out the duties of this Act.

SECTION D

HOUSING

1—Inspection of Dwelling-houses :

104 houses were inspected for housing defects or statutory nuisances under the Housing Acts or Public Health Act, and 61 Notices were served. The number of inspections made for this purpose was 225. Most of the work was carried out following the service of an Informal Notice, and only in 2 cases was it necessary to serve a Statutory Notice.

1 house was demolished and the family of 4 persons was rehoused by the Council.

A row of 3 cottages was purchased by agreement, the 2 end cottages being subject to Closing Orders. 1 was empty and the family of 4 persons from the other was provided with a flat on the Council's housing estate.

HOUSING ACTS 1949/52

No applications for financial assistance towards improvement of housing accommodation were granted during the year.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

No certificates of disrepair were issued during the year.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

A. MILK SUPPLY

The Special Designated Milks on sale in the area are Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised. Sterilised Milk is not retailed in Paignton.

(i) Dairies and Distributors

There is 1 dairy registered, and 28 persons are registered as distributors of milk.

Dealer's licences issued during 1956 authorising the use of special designation in respect of milk retailed were as follows :

Special Designation " Pasteurised "	.....	.....	.....	26
Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested "	.....	.....	.....	12
Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) "	.....	.....	.....	22

Two retailers were also issued with Dealer's Supplementary licences authorising the use of the Special Designations " Pasteurised," " Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) " and " Tuberculin Tested."

(ii) Sampling

Samples taken from local retailers and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter, for bacteriological examination gave the following results :

						Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	—
Tuberculin Tested	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1

B. MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

(i) Meat Inspection

Slaughtering during the whole of the year took place at the Council's Slaughter-house at Luscombe Lane.

The tolls for use of the Slaughter-house are 10/- per unit. Slaughtering is carried out by a Contractor who deals directly with the meat traders.

The amount received in tolls to the end of the year was £1318 9s. 2d.

No cases of congenital tuberculosis in calves were recorded during the year.

The number of animals inspected by the P.H. Inspectors during 1956 are shown below, together with the numbers affected with tuberculosis and other conditions warranting condemnation :

Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
923	79	229	2969	1284	—
Total : 5484					

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excl'dg. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	923	79	229	2969	1284	—
Number inspected	923	79	229	2969	1284	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerchi						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	—	1	2	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	231	24	—	74	37	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerchi	25.13	31.64	—	2.52	3.04	—
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcasses condemned	3	—	—	—	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	51	5	—	—	16	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.85	6.33	—	—	1.32	—
Cysticercosis :						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	6	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The total weight of meat condemned at the slaughterhouse was 3 tons 17cwt. 3qrs. 5lbs.

(ii) Inspection of other foods.

Unsound Food

List of canned foods condemned :

Meats	.....	.....	.....	131
Vegetables	.....	.....	.....	271
Fruit	.....	.....	.....	498
Soup	.....	.....	.....	109
Milk	.....	.....	.....	102
Fish	.....	.....	.....	49
Preserves and Pickles	.....	.....	.....	23
Puddings	.....	.....	.....	4
Fruit Juices	.....	.....	.....	7
				1194

Other foods condemned :

Meat	.....	.....	.....	657½ lbs.
Sausages	.....	.....	.....	18 lbs.
Poultry	.....	.....	.....	498 lbs.
Dried Fruits	.....	.....	.....	102 lbs.
Fats	.....	.....	.....	1 pkt.
Fish	.....	.....	.....	1186 lbs.
Cheese	.....	.....	.....	95 boxes
Peanut Butter	.....	.....	.....	82 jars

Total weight of foods condemned :

18cwt. 1qr. 24lb. 10ozs.

Diseases of Animals Act, 1950

No cases were reported during the year.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Amendment Regulations, 1952.

These Regulations allow a high temperature short time heat treatment as contrasted with a longer time at a lower temperature ; but special apparatus has to be installed to ensure adequate thermostatic control, the maintenance of an even rate of flow during the heat treatment, and an automatic device to divert any mixture which has not been raised to the prescribed temperature.

There is no installation of this type in the District.

The following table gives a comparison of the results of samples taken during the past seven years :

Total number of samples taken	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	103	104	97	85	73	97	89
Grade 1	48.4%	48.1%	55.6%	55.3%	65.7%	43.3%	75.3%
Grade 2	22.2%	8.6%	29.2%	20.0%	19.2%	29.0%	13.5%
Grade 3	13.7%	20.2%	4.1%	21.2%	11.0%	15.5%	5.6%
Grade 4	15.7%	23.1%	11.1%	3.5%	4.1%	10.2%	5.6%

Shellfish

8 samples of crab meat were taken during the year and the results show an improvement on last year. The results of the canned crab processed at the local factory were very satisfactory.

In addition to applying the test recommended by the Fishmongers Company, samples are also examined for other types of bacteria likely to be present.

All samples are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Exeter, whose staff have been most co-operative and helpful.

The following table gives the bacterial counts.

Sample	Total Count per Gram	Non-Haemolytic Streptococci	Coliforms	Staphylococcus Aureus	Staphylococcus Albus	Micrococci	Clostridia	Enteric
Red Meat	20,000	20,000		Nil			Nil	Nil
Red Meat	24,000	10,000	6,000	Nil	4,000	4,000	Nil	Nil
Red Meat	6,000	1,000		Nil	3,000	2,000	Nil	Nil
Red Meat	400,000	370,000	10,000	Nil	20,000		Nil	Nil
White Meat	50,000	30,000		Nil	20,000		Nil	Nil
White Meat	60,000	16,000	10,000	Nil	20,000	14,000	Nil	Nil
White Meat	24,000	9,000	1,000	Nil	10,000	4,000	Nil	Nil
White Meat	50,000	30,000	20,000	Isolated			Nil	Nil

Two tins of mixed crab meat were found to be sterile.

Results of Samples of other Shellfish

Sample	Bact. coli per ml. of Flesh	Organisms of Enteric Dysentery Group	Conclusion
7 Cockles	Nil	Nil	Satisfactory
1 Cockles	less than 1	Nil	Satisfactory
2 Mussels	Nil	Nil	Satisfactory
1 Whelks	less than 1	Nil	Satisfactory
1 Whelks	Nil	Nil	Satisfactory
1 Oyster	Nil	Nil	Satisfactory

C. CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGNS

(i) The number of food premises in the area, by type of business :

There are 325 food premises in the area, comprising :

Grocers and Greengrocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	95
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	.....	.....	.....	.....	49
Fishmongers :					
Wet	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Fried	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Wet and Fried	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Greengrocer/Fishmongers	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Butchers/Fishmongers	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Butchers	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
Baker/Pastrycook Retail Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Bakehouses and Patisseries	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Mineral Water and Beer Bottling Establishments	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Winery	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Licensed Premises :					
Public	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Private	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
Wines and Spirits	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Shellfish Processors	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Confectioners	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
Cooked Meats Vendor	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Fruit and Vegetable Warehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Kiosks and seasonal structures (excl. ice cream vendors) :					
Teas, Snacks	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Shellfish	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Candyfloss, Toffee Apples	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

(ii) The number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 :

There are 84 vendors and 5 manufacturers registered for the sale or manufacture of ice cream. The types of premises retailing this commodity are as follows :

Grocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Grocers/Grengrocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Greengrocers/Fruiterers	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Tobacconist/Confectioners	.....	.....	.....	.....	33
Confectioner/Greengrocer/Fruiterer	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
General Stores	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Kiosks	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Multiple Stores	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Holiday Camp Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	4

In addition to the above, ice-cream is retailed at 20 restaurants, 11 snackbars, 3 cinemas, 2 theatres and a summer pavilion.

Of the 5 ice-cream manufacturers, 4 manufacture by hot mix, and 1 by cold mix.

44 premises are registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale. These comprise :

Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Butchers	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
Fish Fryers	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Grocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	4

There is one dairy registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

(iii) The number of inspections of registered food premises.

Of the 865 inspections of all types of food establishments listed below, 321 inspections were made in respect of registered premises :

Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	.....	.....	.....	.....	122
Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
Bakers, Confectioners Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	68
Hotel and Guest House Kitchens	.....	.....	.....	.....	142
Butchers	.....	.....	.....	.....	75
Grocers/Greengrocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	144
Ice Cream Vendors and Manufacturers	.....	.....	.....	.....	97
Dairies	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Wet and Fried Fish Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	57
Shellfish Dealers	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
Cooked Meat Vendors	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Licensed Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Mineral Water and Beer Bottling Establishments	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Mobile Canteens	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Mobile Fish Fryers	.....	.....	.....	.....	2

Food Delivery Vans and Itinerant Vendors	.....	17
Factory Canteens	.....	2
Beach Kiosks	.....	28
Winery	.....	1
Camp Kiosks	.....	7

246 Informal Notices were served specifying work to be carried out to enable premises to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations. 132 of these were complied with by the end of the year.

(iv) Any new educational activity (e.g. inauguration of clean food guilds or of lectures on food hygiene) and the progress of established educational activity.

The introduction of the Food Hygiene Regulations in January placed a considerable amount of extra work on the Department.

Food premises, including hotels and guest houses have been regularly inspected in the past and were already up to a high standard of hygienic efficiency. The new Regulations, however, with their more stringent requirements have necessitated longer and detailed inspections.

Early in the year various trading organisations shewed a lively interest in the new requirements, and talks were given to the bakers and hoteliers at their invitation. Most of the work of education and explanation has been done on the business premises, however, as each individual is anxious to know how the Regulations affects his premises.

Although these Regulations are not applicable to the dispensing chemists, a number have seen fit to provide constant hot water in the dispensary, and it is hoped that the near future will see the remainder so equipped.

(v) The method of disposal of condemned food.

The condemned meat from the Slaughter-house is sold by the butchers to a bye-products manufacturing firm, who arrange for the transport. All other foodstuffs are disposed of under supervision at the Council's refuse tip.

(vi) Where special examination of a stock or of a consignment of food has been necessary, the total quantity as well as the quantity condemned.

No special examination of a stock or consignment of food was necessary during the year.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

The following annual return, in accordance with Circular 46/49, Memo 188/Med., has been submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Total number of outbreaks	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each	Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each
—	—	—	—	—

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease for the year is given in the following table which also shows the number of cases admitted to hospital and the number of deaths.

DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

TABLE 3

Disease				Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	26	—	—
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (inc. Paratyphoid)	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	5	2	2
Measles	.....	.....	.....	38	1	—
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	38	—	—
Erysipelas	.....	.....	.....	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis :						
Paralytic	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	.....	.....	.....	1	1	—
Food Poisoning	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
Malaria	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
Dysentery	.....	.....	.....	8	—	—

Dysentery

A small outbreak of dysentery occurred in a residential school in February, and all the notified cases were contained in this outbreak. The eight cases were all pupils attending the school, which had a total number of 46 pupils, and they were all confirmed by bacteriological examination of stools, shigella sonnei being the causative agent. It is possible that at least four other pupils were affected, as they had had symptoms some weeks previously, but were negative when examined. The outbreak is thought to have been caused by "N" who was a new boy at the school. There had been some cases of dysentery at his previous school before the Christmas holidays, and his own family developed symptoms of the disease during the holidays. He did not have the disease himself but must have been a symptomless carrier of the organism, and passed it on to his own family and school colleagues in turn. With adequate treatment of the cases, and strict attention to hygiene by the school authorities, the outbreak soon died out.

Steam Disinfector

The steam disinfector at the old Isolation Hospital, Kings Ash Road, which once belonged to the Council, and of which the Council have had the use since it was taken over by the Regional Hospital Board in 1948, finally became unserviceable in July, 1956, and the cost of putting it in repair was more than the Hospital Management Committee were willing to meet. Arrangements were therefore made with that committee to have all articles requiring disinfection taken to the disinfector at Torquay Isolation Hospital. Payment is now made to the Hospital Management Committee for each individual article instead of the annual rental as formally.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

67 Paignton children between the ages of 18 months and 9 years were vaccinated against poliomyelitis in June. This represented only about 10% of the children whose parents had consented to the vaccination, but they were the only children selected by the Ministry to receive the injections at this time. No re-actions or complications occurred in these children.

Table 4 shows the analysis of notified cases into age groups.

TABLE 4

		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—2 years	.....	—	—	2	2	5	3
3—4 years	.....	2	2	9	1	4	4
5—9 years	.....	8	10	12	12	10	9
10—14 years	.....	1	—	—	—	1	1
15—24 years	.....	1	—	—	—	1	—
25 and over	.....	1	1	—	—	—	—

		Malaria		Pneumonia		Erysipelas	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years		—	—	—	2	—	—
5—14 years		—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 years		—	—	—	—	—	—
26—44 years		—	—	—	—	—	—
45—64 years		—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and over		—	—	—	1	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY

DURING THE YEAR 1956

TABLE 5

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
5—14 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—44 years	3	3	1	—	—	—	1	1
45—64 years	4	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 and over	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	4	3	1	3	—	1	2

15 cases of tuberculosis were notified in 1956, of which 11 were pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary. Table 5 shows the age distribution of these cases and the deaths occurring.

The classification of the non-pulmonary cases was as follows :

Spine	1	Peritoneum	1
Meningitis.....	1	Kidney.....	1

TABLE 7

TABLE OF INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON

FROM 1939—1956

Disease	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Tuberculosis	28	29	34	38	30	38	28	31	17	16	16	6	17	12	9	19	17	15
Scarlet Fever	10	25	17	14	37	23	19	10	10	27	7	31	36	9	4	11	25	26
Pneumonia	23	15	26	14	10	13	7	8	12	4	4	1	7	11	4	1	1	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	2	3	1	—	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	7	3	6	12	2	2	—	—	—	2	1	3	3	—	1	—	1
Diphtheria	5	7	11	5	2	3	1	1	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3	—	—	4	6	3	3	—	2	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Measles	—	—	—	64	124	7	199	6	115	131	10	137	16	197	248	4	523	38
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	22	10	55	19	27	16	25	1	23	6	94	66	36	4	38
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	18	—	—	—	—

SECTION G

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

58 licences to store 78,556 gallons of petroleum were issued.

Premises are visited periodically during the year, and all premises are visited at least once per year with the Fire Officer who examines the fire fighting appliances and gives valuable advice on the subject of fire prevention. Licencees are requested to provide two gallon foam extinguisher in the vicinity of the storage tanks.

Fifteen informal requests were made to provide or refill fire extinguishers, repair vents or exhibit abstracts. Eleven requests were complied with by the end of the year, and in no case was it necessary to take formal action in order to get the work done.

EXPLOSIVES ACTS, 1875 AND 1923

Twenty-nine licences were issued for the storage of gunpowder and mixed explosives.

Classification of Stores :

Explosives in magazine—Mode “ A ”—Two.

Shops for the sale of Class 6 Division 3 explosives—cartridges—Four.

Shops for the sale of Class 7 Division 2 explosives—fireworks—Twenty-six.

SECTION H

HOUSING OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1956

12 maisonettes and 40 flats were constructed during the year, all of which were on the Foxhole Estate. 1 house was vacant at the end of 1955 ; 12 houses, 11 flats, and 1 maisonette became vacant during the year. This enabled a total of 80 families to be rehoused from the housing list. 16 families were transferred to more suitable accommodation, and 3 exchanges took place between tenants. 4 families exchanged premises with tenants of other Local Authorities.

100 houses were built by the Council for the employees of the Standard Telephones and Cables Limited, of which 35 were occupied at the end of 1956.

Units constructed consisted of 3 types :

- (a) 5 room maisonettes at an inclusive rental of 31/10 ;
- (b) 5 room flats at an inclusive rental of 30/9 ;
- (c) 4 room flats at an inclusive rental of 25/7.

1 old age persons bungalow became vacant, also 3 pre war houses (inclusive rentals of 27/6), which were offered to families not in a position to pay the top rentals of the new houses.

Rents were increased by 3/9 from 1st April, and the rate increases varied from 1/- to 4/6. The inclusive rentals then ranged from 19/6 to 36/9, with the cheapest old age persons bungalows at 16/3.

The Housing (Allocation) Committee under the Chairmanship of Mrs. E. A. Flemons, held 4 meetings for the allocation of tenancies during the year.

The following premises were allocated during 1956 :

New Maisonettes	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
New Flats	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Existing Houses (including 5 transfers)				.....	19
Existing Flats (including 11 transfers)				.....	25
					96

Allocations were made for the following reasons :

				Families	Persons
Overcrowded conditions	.....	.....		10	41
Unsuitable conditions	.....	.....	.....	30	103
Health reasons	.....	.....	.....	5	15
Key Workers	.....	.....	.....	2	9
High Rents	.....	.....	.....	1	3
Court Orders	.....	.....	.....	1	4
Miscellaneous reasons	.....	.....	.....	31	91
				80	266
Transfers	.....	.....	.....	16	64
				96	330
Transfers of tenancy	.....	.....	.....	21	
Sub-tenancies granted	.....	.....	.....	8	
Exchange of premises	.....	.....	.....	3	
Exchanges with other Local Authorities				4	

Types of Families Allocated to Maisonettes and Flats during 1956.

				Families	Persons
Two person families	.....	.....	.....	19	38
Three person families	.....	.....	.....	38	114
Four person families	.....	.....	.....	25	100
Five person families	.....	.....	.....	7	35
Six person families	.....	.....	.....	6	36
Seven person families	.....	.....	.....	1	7
				96	330

Number of New Maisonettes and Flats occupied on the Foxhole Estate during 1956.

				Maisonettes	Persons
Three person families	.....	.....	.....	5	15
Four person families	.....	.....	.....	6	24
Five person families	.....	.....	.....	1	5
				12	44
				Flats	Persons
Two person families	.....	.....	.....	9	18
Three person families	.....	.....	.....	19	57
Four person families	.....	.....	.....	9	36
Five person families	.....	.....	.....	1	5
Six person families	.....	.....	.....	1	6
Seven person families	.....	.....	.....	1	7
				40	129

Housing Estates.

Number of pre-war Council houses	.....	.....	392
Number of post war houses on the Foxhole Estate	232		
Number of post war maisonettes on the Foxhole Estate	12		
Number of post war flats on the Foxhole Estate	308		
		———	552
Number of post war houses on other estates	.....	.....	117
Total number of Council properties	.....	.....	1064

The growth of the new estate at Foxhole is shown by the following figures giving the increase in population since the allocation of the first tenancy in August, 1949 :

Estimated population at the end of 1949	.....	.....	135
" " " " " " 1950	.....	.....	381
" " " " " " 1951	.....	.....	756
" " " " " " 1952	.....	.....	936
" " " " " " 1953	.....	.....	1300
" " " " " " 1954	.....	.....	1600
" " " " " " 1955	.....	.....	1656
" " " " " " 1956	.....	.....	1892
Average number of persons per unit for 1956		.....	3.32

Housing List.

The Housing List consisted of the following applicants on 31st December, 1956.

One person families	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Two person families	.....	.....	.....	.....	110
Three person families	.....	.....	.....	.....	87
Four person families	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
Five person families	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Six person families	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Pensioners	.....	.....	.....	.....	70
Short List	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
				———	354
Outside List	.....	.....	.....	.....	123
Under five years residence in Paignton	.....	.....			49
				———	526

445 interviews were held with applicants.

RIPARIAN HEALTH DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON

This report is based on the instructions of the Ministry of Health contained in Circulars 33/52 and 16/55, and follows the arrangement detailed in Form Port 20.

SECTION I

STAFF

TABLE A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
D. K. Mac-Taggart	Medical Officer of Health	1954	M.A., M.B., Ch.B. (Aberd.), D.P.H. (Lond.)	Medical Officer of Health for Brixham and Borough of Dartmouth
S. H. Bone	Chief Public Health Inspector	1949	M.S.I.A. Cert. S.I.B.	Housing Officer Petroleum Officer
C. J. Turpin	Rodent Operator and Disinfector	1929	—	—

Clerk : Mrs. S. Beaumont.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health :
Municipal Offices, Oldway, Paignton. Tele : No. Paignton 82214.

SECTION II

AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT
DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Chief Public Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Coastwise	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

SECTION III

CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

TABLE C

Passenger Traffic :

Number of passengers INWARDS — Nil.

Number of passengers OUTWARDS — Nil.

Cargo Traffic :

Principal IMPORTS— Nil.

Principal EXPORTS — Nil.

Principal Ports from which ships arrived in 1956 : Nil.

SECTION IV

INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There is no inland barge traffic in the area

SECTION V

WATER SUPPLY

- (1) Source of supply for (a) the District and (b) Shipping.
 - (a) The water supply of the District is from an upland surface catchment area on Dartmoor of 4,200 acres. The water is treated by storing, filtering, liming and chlorinating.
 - (b) The port is supplied by 2 stand pipes on the harbour quays.
- (2) Reports of tests for contamination.

Frequent samples are taken for bacteriological examination both from the reservoirs and from taps served by the main. The reports indicate that the supply falls in Class I of the Ministry of Health's classification.
- (3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

No precautions are taken.
- (4) Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

There are no water boats.

SECTION VI

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS)

REGULATIONS, 1952

(1) List of infected areas. (Regulation 6.)

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied and the procedure in supplying it to those persons.

No list of infected ports and areas is received from the Ministry of Health, consequently no action is possible under the regulation.

(2) Radio Messages.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the District. (Regulation 13.)

The Post Office will make the necessary arrangements for transmission of wireless messages if required.

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships, and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2)).

Messages are received through Niton radio who inform H.M. Customs at Dartmouth, who telephone the Public Health Department.

(3) Notification otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)). Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for action thereon.

The Coastguard Station on Berry Head receives all communications by semaphore, morse and international code of signals. The message is then passed on to the Medical Officer of Health, normally in his capacity as Medical Officer of Health of Brixham.

(4) Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30). Situation of Stations, and any other standing directions issued under these Regulations.

There is no quarantine buoy, but a quarantine anchorage is available at Brixham. The exact location of the anchorage is marked on charts in the possession of H.M. Customs and the Harbour Master.

(5) Arrangements for :—

- (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious cases (other than Smallpox—See Section VII).

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to Torquay Isolation Hospital.

- (b) Surveillance and follow-up of contacts.

This is undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector.

- (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

By arrangement with the Torquay Public Health Department the cleansing of persons is carried out at their cleansing station. The disinfection of any quarters aboard ship is carried out by the Rodent Operator, and the disinfection of other articles, including clothing, is carried out in the Council's Steam Disinfector.

SECTION VII

SMALLPOX

- (1) Name of Isolation Hospital to which Smallpox cases are sent from the District.

Upton Pyne Smallpox Hospital, Nr. Exeter.

- (2) Arrangements for transport of such cases to that Hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the crews.

Arrangements are made by telephone message to the Resident Physician at Whipton Isolation Hospital, Exeter. The vehicle is supplied by Exeter City Health Department, and is staffed by the hospital. All members of the crew are vaccinated regularly.

- (3) Names of Smallpox Consultants available.

The Consultants are :

Dr. C. Seward, Exeter.

Dr. W. J. Laird, Exeter.

- (4) Facilities for Laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox.

Specimens are sent to the Central Public Health Laboratory, (Virus Reference), Colindale, Hendon, London, N.W.4.

SECTION VIII

VENEREAL DISEASE

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

Facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among seamen are available at the Torbay Hospital, Torquay, at clinics held on Wednesdays at 5.30 p.m.—7.30 p.m. In-patient treatment is given at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter.

Leaflets are circulated among ships crews with this information.

SECTION IX

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

TABLE D

Category	Disease	No. of cases during the year		No. of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	—	—	—	—
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	—	—	—	—
Cases landed from other ports	—	—	—	—

A short account should be given of the measure taken on the arrival by ship of (a) any case of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus, or relapsing fever included in Table D ; (b) any suspected case of any such disease.

NIL.

SECTION X

OBSERVATIONS OF THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS.

NIL.

SECTION XI

MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE.

NIL.

SECTION XII

MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

- (1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

If any ships were to arrive from foreign ports, their masters would be asked if there was evidence of the presence of or undue mortality in rats. The Public Health Inspector and Rodent Operator would make any necessary inspections.

- (2) Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

These examinations would be carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, 7 Dix's Field, Exeter. None have been sent.

- (3) Arrangements in the District for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Masters of ships would be referred to Plymouth for this service.

- (4) Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

No ships have required rat-proofing.

TABLE E

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category			Number
Black rats	.....	.....	Nil.
Brown rats	.....	.....	Nil.
Species not known	.....	.....	Nil.
Sent for examination	.....	.....	Nil.
Infected with plague	.....	.....	Nil.

TABLE F

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Paignton is not an approved port under Article 52 of the International Sanitary Regulations.

SECTION XIII

INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G

Inspections and Notices.

Nature and Number of Inspections			Notices served		Result of serving notices
			Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
General	.....	Nil.	—	—	—
TOTAL	.....	Nil.			

SECTION XIV

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 and 1948

Information respecting any shellfish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. A report of any action taken, which should state whether any prohibited area has been prescribed, should be included.

There are no shellfish beds or layings within the area.

SECTION XV

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

Paignton is not a port approved under the Aliens Order, 1920.
(Applicable only to ports approved for the landing of Aliens)

SECTION XVI

MISCELLANEOUS

Arrangement for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

The bodies of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease would be conveyed to the Council's mortuary in Palace Avenue whilst arrangements were made for interment or cremation. Any necessary precautions would be taken according to the type of disease.

D. K. MacTAGGART,

Medical Officer of Health

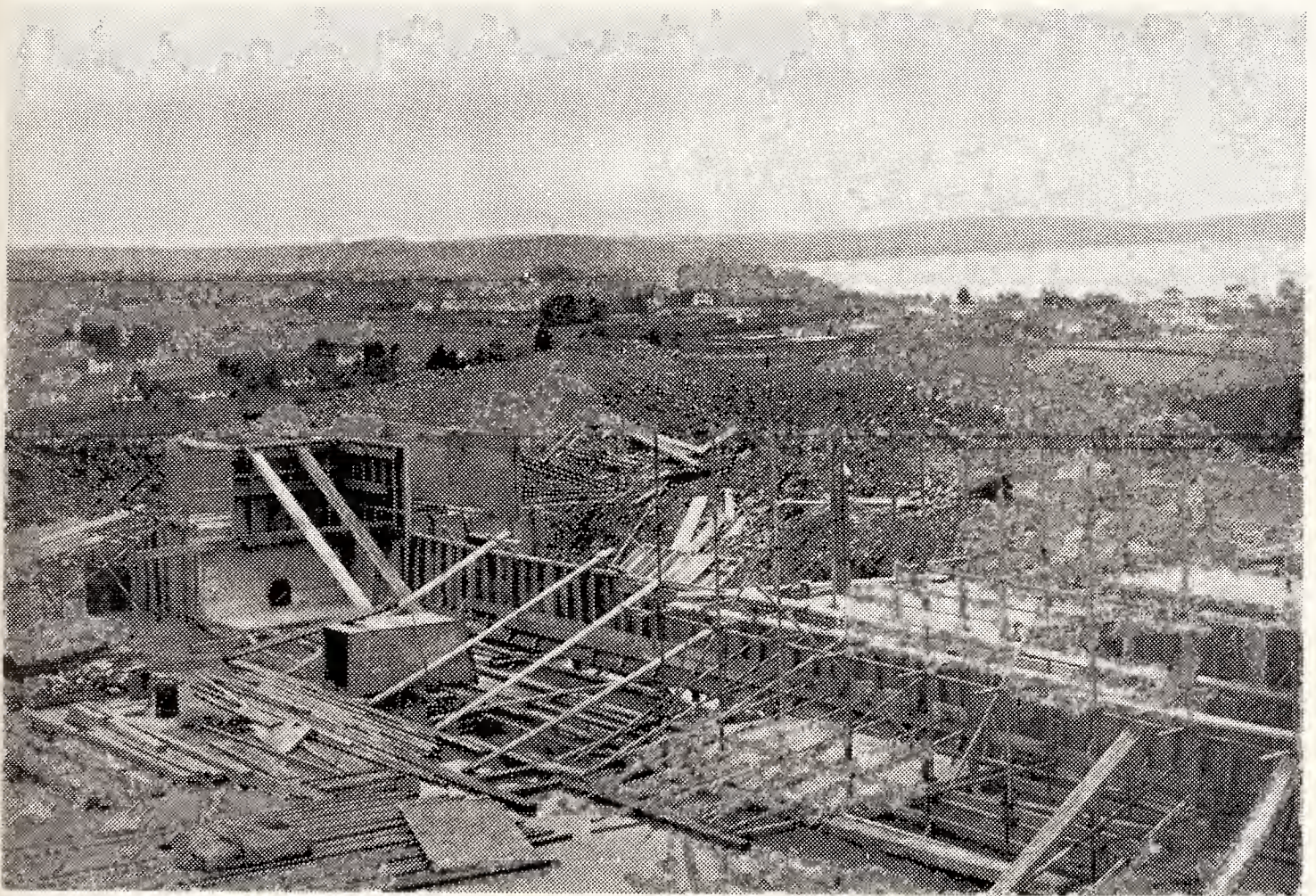


Photo : Torquay Times

ALSTON RESERVOIR ($1\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons) DURING CONSTRUCTION



THE COUNCIL'S CAMPING SITE AT WATERSIDE

